CLAIMS:

1.   Method of storing information on a record carrier having a track pattern of substantially parallel tracks for storing the information in blocks, the method including storing a control data pack comprising control information on a first control location and storing at least one further control data pack comprising the same control information on at

5   least one further control location in the vicinity of the first control location, while providing at least one spacer that is a track part separating the control locations, and selecting the length of the spacer for preventing substantial overlap of the position of the first block of at least one of the control data packs with the position of the first block of other control data packs in the parallel tracks.

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2.   Method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the record carrier is a disc-type record carrier having a circular or spiral shaped track pattern of tracks that accommodate a number of blocks in a winding.

15   3.   Method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the control data packs are positioned within an area of the track pattern, the number of blocks in a winding in the area being within a predefined range, and wherein the length of the spacer is selected for preventing said overlap independently of the position of the control data packs within the area.

20   4.   Method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the length of the control data packs is n blocks, and four instances of the control data packs are consecutively stored, and the length of the spacer between the first and the second instance is selected to be s1 blocks, and the length of the spacer between the second and the third instance is selected to be s2 blocks, and the length of the spacer between the third and the fourth instance is selected to be s3 blocks,

25   in particular $n = 84$, $s1 = 4$, $s2 = 2$, $s3 = 0$ or $n = 85$, $s1 = 0$, $s2 = 3$, $s3 = 0$.

5.   Method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the record carrier is a rewritable type record carrier having at least two predefined reserved areas that are reserved for writing a specific control data pack in one of a number of spare control locations for use in a

predefined order, and wherein the length of the reserved area is selected such that the remaining spare control locations constitute the spacer.

6.   Method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the length of the reserved area is
5   selected such that the remaining spare control locations constitute the spacer for the event that the specific control data packs are written in corresponding spare control locations, and for the event that the specific control data pack in a first reserved area is written in a first spare control location and a same specific control data pack in a further reserved area is written in a second spare control location, the first and second spare control locations being
10   consecutive in said predefined order.

7.   Method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the length of a spare control location is n + k blocks, n being a number of control data blocks and k being linking blocks between data blocks, and the length of the reserved area is r * (n + k) blocks, in particular n = 32,
15   k = 7 and r = 9.

8.   Computer program product for storing information, which program is operative to cause a processor to perform the method as claimed in any of the claims 1 to 7.

20   9.   Device for recording information on a record carrier, the record carrier having a track pattern of substantially parallel tracks for storing the information in blocks, the device comprising recording means and a control unit for storing a control data pack comprising control information on a first control location and storing at least one further control data pack comprising the same control information on at least one further control location in the
25   vicinity of the first control location, while providing at least one spacer that is a track part separating the control locations, and for selecting the length of the spacer for preventing substantial overlap of the position of the first block of at least one of the control data packs with the position of the first block of other control data packs in the parallel tracks.

30   10.   Device for reading information from a record carrier, the record carrier having a track pattern of substantially parallel tracks for storing the information in blocks, the device comprising reading means and a control unit for retrieving a control data pack comprising control information from a first control location and retrieving at least one further control data pack comprising the same control information from at least one further control location

in the vicinity of the first control location, while skipping at least one spacer that is a track part separating the control locations, the spacer having a predetermined length for preventing substantial overlap of the position of the first block of at least one of the control data packs with the position of the first block of other control data packs in the parallel tracks.

11.   Device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the control unit is provided with error correction means for correcting errors in the control information based on a combination of at least two control data packs.

12.   Record carrier having a track pattern of substantially parallel tracks for storing information in blocks, which information includes a control data pack comprising control information on a first control location and at least one further control data pack comprising the same control information on at least one further control location in the vicinity of the first control location, and at least one spacer that is a track part separating the control locations, the length of the spacer preventing substantial overlap of the position of the first block of at least one of the control data packs with the position of the first block of other control data packs in the parallel tracks.

13.   Record carrier as claimed in claim 12, wherein the record carrier is a disc-type record carrier having a circular or spiral shaped track pattern of tracks that accommodate a number of blocks in a winding, and wherein the control data packs are positioned within an area of the track pattern, and the number of blocks in a winding in the area being within a predefined range, and wherein the length of the spacer is selected for preventing said overlap independently of the position of the control data packs within the area.

14.   Record carrier as claimed in claim 13, wherein the length of the control data packs is n blocks, and four instances of the control data packs are consecutively stored, and the length of the spacer between the first and the second instance is selected to be s1 blocks, and the length of the spacer between the second and the third instance is selected to be s2 blocks, and the length of the spacer between the third and the fourth instance is selected to be s3 blocks, in particular n = 84, s1 = 4, s2 = 2, s3 = 0 or n = 85, s1 = 0, s2 = 3, s3 = 0.